ELIMINATES HAND ROLLING

Lefse Rolling Machine Is First Of Its Kind

"So far as I know, it's the first and only mechanical lefse rolling machine in the world," says Evan Granrud, Opheim, Mont., inventor. "Some lefse factories use pressing machines. But this machine rolls rather than presses the dough into 14 in. dia. rounds, resulting in uniform quality from one batch to the next."

Ever since he developed the machine, lefse lovers from all corners of the world have literally beaten a path to the Lefse Shack, a converted garage in which Granrud, his wife Muriel, and several employees make homemade-style potato lefse that tastes even better than your grandmother used to make."

Thanks to the rolling machine which Evan developed, the factory, with only four employees, is able to turn out 1,500 rounds of lefse per eight hour shift. The factory operates seasonally, usually running from October to Christmas, and then again for about a month before Easter. The Lefse Shack has retail outlets in Glasgow, Sockeye and Plentywood, and mail orders lefse all over the world. A 3-lb. package, containing 16 14-in. dia. rounds of lefse, retails for $12.50, including shipping.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Lefse Shack, Opheim, Mont. 59250 (Ph 406 762-3250).

CAN ALSO BE USED TO PROTECT BIRD FEEDERS AND BIRD HOUSES

New “Top Guard” Keeps Squirrels Out Of Trees

The new “Top Guard Climbing Animal Barrier” protects nut and fruit trees from the ravages of squirrels and other climbing pests. It can also be used on bird feeder and bird house poles, duck boxes and utility poles to keep animals from climbing them, says the inventor, Brian Stone, Whigman, Ga.

Stone explains that Top Guard was originally designed to protect pecan trees from squirrels. He notes that one squirrel can destroy 35-50 lbs. of pecans in one season. Top Guard not only keeps squirrels, snakes and other animals from climbing trees but expands as the tree grows, even if trunk shape isn’t circular, so the tree isn’t damaged.

Top Guard fits around the tree or post and has an outer rim made of 6-in. wide slippery metal. Between the tree and the metal is a wire mesh that allows the Top Guard to expand as the tree grows.

Stone advises mounting Top Guards 4 ft. off the ground. In orchards, he recommends putting them on the three outside tree rows. You must also be sure that animals can’t jump into protected trees from other nearby trees.

Wire mesh keeps animals from climbing between the tree and the 6-in. wide outside metal rim.

Four sizes are available to fit trees and posts with outer circumferences ranging from 3-in. to 120-in. The next to largest size, for 49 to 78-in. circumference trees and posts, sells for $22, plus shipping.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cobb Place, Inc., P.O. Box 529, Whigman, Ga. 31797 (Ph 912 246-3706).

ICE LANCE MELTS A SMALL CORRIDOR THROUGH DAMS AT THE EDGE OF SHINGLED ROOFS

STOP WATER FROM BACKING UP UNDER SHINGLES

Solar-Powered Roof De-Icer

Look what’s new under the sun — a solar-powered roof de-icer from Tindel, Inc., Lincoln, Mass., that solves leaks caused by roof ice buildup.

Called the Sorod ice lance, it uses a tiny solar collector to melt small corridors through ice dams at the edge of shingled roofs, preventing water buildup and damage inside from dripping water.

Ice dams are formed when heat from inside the house rises through the roof and melts snow. As the snow melts, water runs down the roof to the unheated overhang where it freezes, forming a ridge of ice. This ridge dams the continuing flow of water, which backs up under the heated portion of the roof. Eventually this water backs up under the shingles and leaks inside the house.

The Sorod ice lance is a narrow tube filled with a refrigerant. The collector, a black aluminum fin, absorbs energy from the sun and passes it to the tube. The refrigerant begins to bubble and the heat passes through the length of it. It melts a small corridor along the tube, almost too small to see but large enough to conduct backed-up water to the edge of the roof.

The 4 ft. Sorod will protect overhangs up to 3 ft. wide. It needs sunlight to work effectively and will not work at night, during heavy overcasts or when badly shaded. With most buildings, this is not a problem, however, as the dammed water need not be continuously drained. Periodic relief is generally sufficient, says Fred Tingley, Tindel representative.

One Sorod can protect 10 to 15 running ft. of roof, and is fastened in place with two brackets. The black collecting fin is pointed toward the average winter sun position. A package of 4 rods sells for $38.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tindel, Inc., Route 3, Box 108, Lincoln, Mass. 01773 (Ph 617 259-9641).